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MATTERS RELATED TO THE POSSIBLE HOLDING OF A THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

Report by the Secretariat

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INTRODUCTION

1. The General Assembly, in paragraph 20 of its resolution 47/67 of 14 December 1992, recommended that Member States might discuss, during the next sessions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the possibility of holding a third United Nations conference on the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space (a third UNISPACE conference).

2. Pursuant to that recommendation and similar recommendations emanating from the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirtieth session (A/AC.105/543, para. 98 and annex II, para. 20), the Committee at its thirty-sixth session, in 1993, considered in general terms the question of holding such a conference, including the goals and objectives of such a conference, as well as matters related to organization, venue, timing, and funding implications. The Committee requested the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to further discuss matters at its thirty-first session, in 1994, with a view to promoting an early conclusion on the matter by the Committee. 1/

3. The General Assembly, in paragraphs 22 and 23 of its resolution 48/39 of 10 December 1993, with a view to promoting an early conclusion on the matter by the Committee, requested the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee to continue its discussions on the matter and agreed that the most important step was to define a set of sharply focused objectives for such a conference and that details such as organization, venue, timing and funding should also be considered. In paragraph 24 of the same resolution, the Assembly noted that the goals set for such a conference might be achieved by other means, including intensification of work within the Committee.

4. Pursuant to that resolution, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-first session, in 1994, continued its discussions of the possibility of holding a third UNISPACE conference. Working papers on various matters related to the holding of such a conference were submitted by India (A/AC.105/C.1/L.195), Pakistan (A/AC.105/C.1/L.191) and by the States members of the Group of 77 (A/AC.105/C.1/L.199). The latter working paper represented an amalgamation and expansion of the views contained in the Indian and Pakistan working papers. At that session the Government of India reiterated its offer, originally made at the thirty-sixth session of the Committee, in 1993, to host a third UNISPACE conference at its Space Centre at Bangalore.

5. The Subcommittee agreed that the Committee should further consider the ideas and proposals on the matter, as well as any others that might be submitted at a later date (A/AC.105/571, para. 112). To further discussions on the matter within the Committee, the Subcommittee requested the Secretariat to prepare, in time for the thirty-seventh session of the Committee, "a comprehensive report on the likely organization, funding and logistical implications of holding such a conference. The report should include an analysis of UNISPACE 82,* including its organization, funding and logistics, as well as an analysis of various combinations of duration, scope and venue (including both United Nations headquarters cities and other sites) for a third UNISPACE conference" (A/AC.105/571, para. 113).

I. SCOPE OF THE PRESENT REPORT

6. The present report is divided into three parts: the first part (section II) reviews the discussions on the possibility of holding a third UNISPACE conference that have taken place thus far in the Committee and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in the context of changes that have taken place since UNISPACE 82;

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*Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, held at Vienna from 9 to 21 August 1982.

the second part (section III) is an analysis of UNISPACE 82 in the context outlined in paragraph 5 above; and the third part (section IV) provides an analysis of these issues in the context of holding a third UNISPACE conference.

7. The objectives, scope and agenda of a third UNISPACE conference would be decided by the General Assembly, based on the recommendations of the Committee.

8. Sections III and IV utilize figures provided by the Office of Financial Services of the United Nations Secretariat. The figures in section III represent the most recent estimates provided by the Office of Financial Services of the Secretariat.

9. In considering possible venues for a third UNISPACE conference, the present report by the Secretariat, prepared pursuant to the request of the Subcommittee at its thirty-first session (A/AC.105/571, para. 113), deals with only four cities: Bangalore, India; Geneva; New York; and Vienna. Bangalore is included because the Government of India has made a formal offer to act as host to the proposed conference. Costs for other locations, should other Governments offer to host the proposed conference, would be similar to those cited for Bangalore though they would differ to the extent that travel and daily subsistence allowance costs vary depending on the location. In keeping with past practice of the Committee, and in accordance with the agreement reached in the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/571, para. 114), the venue of the proposed conference would be decided by consensus.

II. THE CHANGING CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL SPACE ACTIVITIES AND POSSIBLE RATIONALE FOR CONVENING A THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

10. The primary objective of UNISPACE 82 was "to adopt effective means for using satellite programmes to assist in the solution of problems of regional or global significance and to strengthen the capabilities of Member States, in particular developing countries, to use the applications of space research for their own economic and social development" (A/AC.105/179, para. 21).

11. To support that objective, it was noted that the applications of space technology had increased dramatically since 1968, when the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space had been held, that there was an urgent need to ensure adequate transfer of technology so that all countries could reap the benefits of those applications, and that there was a need to bring to the attention of developing countries, at the highest levels, specific applications of space technology in areas such as agriculture, efficient utilization of natural resources, land and water management, disaster warning and prevention, and environmental monitoring.

12. As described below, and as has been suggested in discussions in the Committee and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, that rationale remains valid today and could serve as objectives of a third UNISPACE conference.

13. The suggestion has also been made that although sufficient rationale for holding a third UNISPACE conference exists, it is not necessary to hold a conference as the objectives could be achieved by other means, including intensification of work within the Committee.

14. Much has changed since 1982, however, in the international political situation and, in particular, in space technology and its applications and in the space activities of Member States. Those dramatic changes are viewed as justification for considering the possibility of holding a third UNISPACE conference.

15. The most significant change to have occurred since the convening of UNISPACE 82 has been the end of the cold war. As analysis of the UNISPACE 82 experience shows, that conference was severely constrained, in its planning, in its work and in its results, by the East-West and North-South tensions that characterized international relations at that time. The new, generally cooperative and non-belligerent tone that currently characterizes international relations would increase the likelihood that a third UNISPACE conference would be more meaningful and would be able to make substantive progress on whatever items were included in its agenda.

16. The ways in which Member States approach space activities have also changed dramatically in the 12 years since the convening of UNISPACE 82. For the most part, space activities conducted prior to 1982, and to a certain extent until only recently, were primarily conducted by Governments pursuing national objectives. While there was a significant amount of bilateral cooperation in space activities, in a general sense, international cooperation, when pursued, was often conducted in conjunction with political and ideological goals.

17. This has changed over the past decade, with the most rapid and significant changes occurring in the past several years. To some extent, credit must be given to UNISPACE 82 for the acceleration in international cooperation and the expansion of access by developing countries to space technology and applications that have occurred since that conference was held. Equally important has been the development of significant space capabilities by some developing countries, which has not only set an example for other countries, but has also expanded the opportunities for cooperation among developing countries themselves. The end of the cold war has also led to the initiation of significant levels of cooperation in space activities among the major space powers that had previously been unimaginable. The net effect of those developments, evident in the spirit of cooperation and consensus that has prevailed at recent sessions of the Committee, has been an increased transparency in international space activities and an increased willingness on the part of Member States, both developed and developing countries, to cooperate in space activities.

18. The expansion of international cooperation in space activities was evident in the celebration in 1992 of International Space Year. As part of the organization and planning process for the Year, 29 national space agencies and organizations from both developed and developing countries participated in the Space Agency Forum for International Space Year. The Forum was responsible for a variety of projects based on the theme "Mission to planet Earth," all of which were conducted on a cooperative basis. Because of the success of that broad cooperative effort, the members of the Forum have decided to continue many of the projects started for International Space Year and are exploring further possibilities of how to make the benefits of "Mission to planet Earth" projects more available to developing countries.

19. While it is making admirable efforts to consider the needs of developing countries, the Forum is comprised primarily of agencies and organizations from countries with significant space capabilities and there remains a need to involve agencies and organizations from countries without such capabilities in the activities of the Forum. A necessary step towards achieving that goal would be to match existing space capabilities with current demands in developing countries. Such a process might be facilitated by a third UNISPACE conference.

20. Today, there is significantly more awareness of the potential of space technology for improving life on Earth, and more widespread use of space technology, than in 1982. Since the convening of UNISPACE 82, many more countries have become active participants in space activities, through the development of indigenous launchers and satellites as well as through the acquisition and use of space technology through various cooperative efforts. Virtually every country in the world now uses satellites for communications, meteorology, television and radio broadcasting and other applications that materially improve the lives of its citizens. The use of remote-sensing data for applications such as agriculture, resource management and environmental monitoring at the national level and, to some extent, at the regional level has also become

more common. The diffusion of space technology into many areas of everyday life has been accompanied, and indeed fostered, by the rapid commercialization of space technology and services, particularly in the fields of communications, broadcasting and remote sensing.

21. Similarly, there is increasing awareness of the value of space technology in providing solutions to problems that transcend narrow national interests. The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 3 to 14 June 1992, highlighted the significant environmental problems faced by all countries, as well as the link between environmental protection and sustainable development of the world's resources. In adopting Agenda 21, 2/ the Conference recognized the important contribution that space technology could make to environmental monitoring and sustainable development, particularly in the areas of land-use planning and management, deforestation, desertification, water resource assessment and the scientific study of environmental dynamics. In many other areas, Agenda 21 called for expanded and improved environmental monitoring, data collection and resource survey activities in which space technology could play an important role.

22. In response to requests from the Committee and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, detailed analyses of the applications of space technology to Agenda 21 were prepared by the Office for Outer Space Affairs in 1993 (A/AC.105/547 and Add.1). Those documents may be useful to the Committee in its consideration of matters related to the holding of a third UNISPACE conference.

23. Another important trend has developed, in parallel to those mentioned above, that has had an equally significant impact on international space activities. It primarily involves the financial aspects of space technology. While space technology and space applications have expanded rapidly over the past decade, so too has the cost of conducting space activities. Coupled with global economic difficulties and the removal of the political-prestige impetus that drove many space activities during the cold war, the rising cost of space activities has had two important results. It has caused many countries to re-evaluate their efforts to acquire space-related technology and infrastructure, and it has encouraged States to increasingly pursue international cooperation in conducting space activities.

24. These changes have also greatly affected the basis of the national space programmes of the space powers. Because these programmes are no longer primarily politically motivated and because resources have become increasingly scarce, there is an increasing need to explain the benefits of space technology to the general public and to justify requests for funding with tangible proof of the value of those programmes.

25. The United Nations itself has not been immune to financial difficulties. Faced with broadening responsibilities for its services in peace-keeping and related fields, the United Nations is experiencing a financial crisis that has severely limited the funding available for existing programmes and that has largely precluded the creation of new programmes. This fact must be borne in mind by Member States in developing the agenda of a third UNISPACE conference and in formulating possible recommendations for such a conference. During the planning phase of such a conference, it would therefore be necessary to develop creative ways to finance the implementation of any recommendations that such a conference might make, to the extent feasible, utilizing existing funding sources.

26. Despite the financial constraints facing it, the United Nations, as well as the entire international community, is confronted with numerous post-cold-war challenges related to space technology and its applications, including the need to shift resources once dedicated to military uses towards more productive purposes, the commercialization of space technology, and the need to develop ways to monitor and protect the environment. The boundary between military and civilian space systems that existed during the cold war is becoming increasingly blurred. This has allowed some advanced military space technologies to be used for productive civilian purposes and at the same time has also raised concerns about the spread of these

technologies and the implications that they would have on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Another factor that must be considered is the need to ensure the safety of future space activities.

27. The new security environment faced by the international community and the challenges it presents to the United Nations was outlined by the Secretary-General in his report entitled "An agenda for peace" (A/47/277). As a follow-up to that report, the Secretary-General issued a report in 1993 entitled "International cooperation in space activities for enhancing security in the post-cold war era" (A/48/221). In that report the Secretary-General outlined ways in which space technology could be utilized by the international community to promote security in all its forms - economic, political, military and environmental - and suggested new approaches that could be pursued with regard to utilizing space technology for that purpose. He also outlined specific measures that could be taken by Member States and the United Nations itself to develop confidence-building measures for outer space activities and to improve access to space technology.

28. Taken together, the changed international political situation, advances in space technology and in its applications and increased awareness of their potential terrestrial benefits, the recognition of the special role that space technology can play in areas of universal concern, such as the environment and disaster warning, mitigation and relief, and the potential role of space technology in enhancing international peace and security should provide ample basis for the Committee to develop a set of sharply focused objectives for a third UNISPACE conference, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/39.

29. The objectives could include a review of the developments in space activities since 1982, including advances in space technology, new economic and social applications, and economic factors limiting the development of space technology and its applications. On the basis of that review, a third UNISPACE conference could consider how States could make the best use of existing systems and opportunities and how international cooperation could be strengthened to provide new systems, applications and further opportunities for international cooperation. In particular, a third UNISPACE conference might consider how international cooperation in the field of remote sensing, weather and climate observations and environmental monitoring could be strengthened to promote the use of such systems by all States and to ensure adequate financial resources to maintain and improve those systems.

30. Additionally, such a conference would be a valuable forum in which to address the concerns of many States regarding the need to ensure continuity in space systems, particularly those related to meteorology and remote sensing. Only if such continuity is ensured will Governments and the private sector invest in ground infrastructure, such as data reception and processing facilities, which are necessary to make full use of such systems. Many Governments have also expressed concern in the Committee regarding the need to ensure that all States have access to the data from space systems on reasonable terms. A third UNISPACE conference would be an appropriate forum in which to evaluate various alternatives that have been proposed for ensuring such access.

31. There is also a pressing need to ensure that all States can, in practice as well as in principle, use data from space systems, which requires the development of indigenous capabilities in all States. A third UNISPACE conference could address the various issues related to education, training and technical assistance in space science and technology and their applications. There is also a need to analyse the relationship between commercialization of space technology and the development of indigenous capabilities with a view to making developing countries equal partners in the development and utilization of those technologies.

32. While the States that are most active in space are members of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, the 131 Member States that are not members of the Committee are also users of space technology. A third UNISPACE conference would provide those States with the opportunity to participate fully in United Nations discussions on international space policy. It would thus provide the members of the

Committee with an opportunity to exchange information on space activities, policies, priorities and needs with those States and would encourage broader use of space applications and participation in space activities.

33. The working papers containing additional analysis and proposals on the objectives, venue, funding and organization of the proposed third UNISPACE conference, referred to in paragraph 4 above, could constitute a basis for future discussions on the matter within the Committee and the Subcommittee.

III. ANALYSIS OF THE SECOND UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

A. Organization and logistics

Initial discussions and preparatory phase

34. Discussions on the possibility of convening a second UNISPACE conference began in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in 1974. The same year, at the request of the Committee, a questionnaire was sent by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to all Member States to solicit their views on the matter. In 1976, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee established an informal working group to consider various proposals regarding the convening of such a conference. The Secretariat was asked to prepare an in-depth study on matters related to the proposed conference. Additional information was requested from Member States in 1977.

35. On the recommendation of the Committee, the General Assembly adopted resolution 33/16 of 10 November 1978. In that resolution, the Assembly adopted the recommendations of the Committee on convening a second UNISPACE conference and on designating the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space as the Preparatory Committee for the Conference and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee as the Advisory Committee to the Preparatory Committee.

36. The Committee, in its capacity as Preparatory Committee for the Conference, held four sessions and the Advisory Committee held three. At its first session, in 1979, the Preparatory Committee recommended that the conference be held in the second half of 1982. At the same session, the Preparatory Committee, taking into account the recommendations of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the views of Member States expressed in their replies to the questionnaire referred to in paragraph 34 above, made detailed recommendations to the General Assembly regarding the title, basic objectives, provisional agenda, final report, preparation and organization of the conference and proposed a ceiling for its cost. The General Assembly endorsed those recommendations in its resolution 34/67 of 5 December 1979.

37. The second session of the Preparatory Committee was held in 1980. It approved plans for the preparation of background papers suggested by the Outer Space Affairs Division (now the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat), recommended that the conference be of two weeks' duration and made detailed recommendations regarding participants in the conference and public information activities. The latter included, inter alia, the issuance by the United Nations Postal Administration of a special stamp commemorating the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space, the organization of essay and poster contests, the provision of exhibition space at United Nations Headquarters for Member States to display space-related items and information, and the publication of a pre-conference booklet, and a periodic newsletter. After considering offers to host the conference from the Governments of Austria and the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Committee recommended that the conference be held at Vienna. Those recommendations were endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/15 of 3 November 1980.

Secretariat of the Conference

38. Establishment of the UNISPACE 82 secretariat became linked to the sensitive political situation that existed at that time and a situation arose in which it was necessary for the highest posts of the secretariat to be geographically and politically balanced. As a result, the secretariat of the Conference included, in addition to the Secretary-General of the Conference, three deputy secretaries-general and three assistant secretaries-general appointed from outside the United Nations. That arrangement resulted in top-heavy management for the Conference and provided little substantive benefit and, because those officials performed a minimal amount of conference-related tasks, the bulk of the work was carried out by the Secretary-General of the Conference, the Executive Secretary and the secretariat. The arrangement also had financial impact on the Conference as the posts of the deputy and assistant secretaries-general had not been included in the original budget and had to be financed out of funds intended for consultants.

39. The Executive Secretary was assigned from the Outer Space Affairs Division. The secretariat staff consisted of a special assistant to the Secretary-General of the Conference, a technical writer/editor and a public information specialist, all at the P-3, P-4 or P-5 level. Three General Service staff members also served as part of the secretariat. Most of those staff members were current or former members of the Outer Space Affairs Division or of other relevant United Nations entities. Other staff of the Outer Space Affairs Division assisted the secretariat staff during the Conference itself and the Division also provided secretaries to the technical committees of the Conference. UNISPACE 82 illustrated the importance of having as members of the secretariat staff members from the Outer Space Affairs Division who were familiar with the technical issues involved, with their political implications, and with the United Nations system and procedures. The fact that those persons also returned to the Outer Space Affairs Division after the Conference ensured effective implementation of follow-up activities.

40. Consultants were used to assist in the preparation of technical background papers, in the regional seminars and in other technical preparatory activities. The consultants were funded partly from the conference budget and partly through contributions from Governments and specialized international organizations.

41. The Secretary-General of the Conference was appointed in October 1980 and took office in March 1981, at which time the secretariat was formally established in New York. The Outer Space Affairs Division, however, had begun preliminary preparatory work several months earlier. Due to political difficulties, the deputy and assistant secretaries-general were not appointed until December 1981.

Preparation of the report

42. The secretariat began preparation of a preliminary version of the draft report of the Conference in 1981, taking into account national papers that had been submitted. The preliminary version of the draft report was discussed by the Advisory Committee in January 1982. The background papers prepared by the Secretariat, including one on expanding the mandate of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, also provided valuable input for the substantive part of the draft report. The preliminary version of the draft report was then revised by the secretariat, further revised by the Preparatory Committee in March 1982 and circulated to all States 90 days prior to the Conference. The procedure followed for the preparation of the draft report allowed ample time for States to review it, for the preparatory committees to discuss and revise it, and for the Secretary-General of the Conference to conduct the necessary consultations with States on it and on other matters related to the organization of the Conference.

Other activities related to the Conference

43. Concurrently, the secretariat of the Conference undertook a variety of pre-Conference activities that focused on both the substantive preparations for the Conference and public information activities.

44. Under the auspices of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, a number of pre-Conference regional meetings and seminars were held in 1981 and 1982, at Addis Ababa, at Buenos Aires, at Jakarta, at Quito and at Toulouse, France. The seminars helped to focus international attention on the Conference and provided input for the national papers submitted to the Preparatory Committee and the Conference. They also served to inform potential Conference participants about the issues to be discussed. The secretariat enlisted the support of various intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in organizing special meetings related to the themes of UNISPACE 82. The meetings made substantial contributions to the overall preparatory process. The United Nations Programme on Space Applications also organized three follow-up conferences for Member States, focusing on the results of UNISPACE 82.

45. In addition to the wide variety of public information and public awareness activities organized by the secretariat of the Conference, significant effort was made to create press, radio and television publicity and several lectures were organized at various forums to raise the profile of the Conference. Those activities were essential in increasing public interest in outer space in general and in the Conference. Three books related to the Conference were published following the convening of UNISPACE 82: one contained the background papers prepared by the Secretariat, one contained the national papers submitted to the Secretariat and one contained a review of a pre-Conference round-table. The publications helped to further publicize the Conference and its results.

Host country agreement

46. Discussions with the Government of Austria, the host country, regarding the practical and legal arrangements for the Conference began soon after the venue was decided by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/15. Negotiations on the host country agreement were completed in January 1982 but still required approval by various authorities within Austria, including its legislative bodies, so that the actual agreement was not signed until May 1982. That was preceded by a series of meetings between the secretariat of the Conference and Austrian officials that proved vital for liaison and communication. UNISPACE 82 highlighted the need for early discussions and negotiations on the host country agreement and on practical conference arrangements, including meeting facilities, security, associated activities, and accommodations.

Organization of the Conference

47. The Conference itself was organized into a plenary and three committees, each dealing with a particular aspect of the agenda. There was a provision that not more than two meetings would be held simultaneously. The three committees were as follows: State of Space Science and Technology; Applications of Space Science and Technology; and International Cooperation and the Role of the United Nations. A credentials committee was also convened by the plenary. Following the first two days of plenary meetings, the plenary continued its general debate for three days, in parallel with one committee meeting. The other two committees then held parallel meetings for three days. Finally, the plenary was reconvened for the two days to adopt the report of the Conference.

48. The bureau of the Conference, elected at the 1st meeting of the plenary, consisted of representatives of 17 States who served as vice-presidents, a rapporteur-general, chairmen and vice-chairmen of the committees. Those positions were allotted to ensure a reasonable regional balance. An informal group called "Friends of the President" was organized from among the members of the bureau to assist the President (the Austrian Foreign Minister) in the final negotiations on the report of the Conference.

B. Funding

49. As part of the initial preparations for UNISPACE 82, the Secretariat of the United Nations prepared for the Advisory Committee a study on the financial implications of such a conference (A/AC.105/L.108 and Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2 and 3). The estimates contained in that study were updated for the General Assembly in 1979 (A/C.5/34/45). The latter study estimated the cost of holding a two-week conference at United Nations Headquarters in New York to be $2.05 million (1980-1982 dollars), which included $625,000 in conference-servicing costs.*

50. In addition to the amount provided through the United Nations budget, it should be noted that Austria, as the host country, was responsible for paying the incremental costs related to having the Conference at Vienna rather than in New York, the headquarters of the relevant secretariat at the time of the Conference. As included in the host country agreement, those costs were estimated to be approximately $480,000, which covered, inter alia, incremental secretariat, conference-servicing, daily subsistence allowance, travel and freight costs.

51. Several of the pre-conference activities, in particular some of the regional seminars, were made possible by voluntary contributions by some Governments for that purpose. Funding for public information activities ($50,000) was also supplemented by financial and in-kind contributions from other international and non-governmental organizations.

IV. POSSIBLE ORGANIZATION OF A THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE

A. Organization and logistics

Initial discussions and preparatory phase

52. As noted in paragraphs 1-4 of the present report, the possibility of convening a third UNISPACE conference has been discussed in the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee since 1993.

53. It would be possible to follow an organizational plan similar to the one followed for UNISPACE 82. In that case, upon approval by the General Assembly, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space could serve as the preparatory committee for the proposed third UNISPACE conference and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee could serve as advisory committee to the preparatory committee (hereafter both are referred to as the preparatory committee). That would involve minimal cost but would also require some modification of the work programmes of the preparatory committees on other areas during the preparatory process.

54. As the preparatory committee, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space would be required to make detailed recommendations to the General Assembly on the objectives, agenda, organization, venue and cost and funding of the proposed third UNISPACE conference, as well as the nature of the final

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*According to information provided by the Financial Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna, the inflation rate in Austria for the period 1982-1993 was approximately 3.3 per cent per year (or 39.3 per cent for the entire period). That figure can be used as a rough estimate of global inflation rates during that period.

document(s) to be adopted by the conference, which could include one or more of the following: the report of the conference, the declaration, the plan of action.

55. The preparatory committee would also be responsible for developing provisional rules of procedure for the conference. Such rules would cover, inter alia, the decision-making process (consensus), procedures for election and appointment of the bureau, and procedures for the work of the conference committees.

Preparation of the report

56. The most important function of the preparatory committee would be to consider and agree on a draft of the conference document(s). As with UNISPACE 82, it would be necessary to begin preparation of the draft report of the proposed third UNISPACE conference at least one year prior to the convening of the conference and to conduct extensive consultations with Member States and, whenever appropriate, to seek the widest possible input on the content of the draft report from Member States. The conference secretariat would prepare the initial draft(s) on the basis of the guidelines provided by the preparatory committee. The preparatory committee, working in conjunction with the conference secretariat, other United Nations entities and international organizations, would be responsible for the preparation of the draft report.

57. A small number of analytical background papers would be prepared by the conference secretariat, within the existing resources of the ongoing publication programme of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, which would be focused on conference-related matters for the preparatory period, to provide all Member States with essential technical information on the issues to be addressed by the conference. National papers could be prepared and submitted by Member States to the preparatory committee and the conference but would be circulated in the quantity and form submitted, without processing or reproduction by the secretariat. That procedure, which has been followed by other recent United Nations conferences, would significantly reduce the cost of documentation compared with that of UNISPACE 82. The major focus of the preparation of pre-conference documents would therefore be on the declaration, the plan of action and the report of the conference, which would ultimately be adopted by the conference.

58. Preparation of the analytical background documents by the conference secretariat, which would be the first step in the preparatory process, should begin as soon as possible. Making decisions on the number and the topics of such documents would require input by the preparatory committee and would logically require the prior approval of a draft provisional agenda for the conference.

Secretariat of the conference

59. The Office for Outer Space Affairs could serve as the substantive secretariat of a third UNISPACE conference and could provide the executive secretary of the conference. It would also be necessary to appoint, on a temporary basis for about 12 months prior to the conference, one or two technical writers or editors and to allow for the hiring of short-term consultants as needed to assist in the preparation of conference-related material on which there is no in-house expertise. Because its staff has been augmented since UNISPACE 82 and has the experience of that Conference behind it, the Office for Outer Space Affairs, together with the minimum additional support described above, should be able to meet the demands that would be placed on it should it be designated as the secretariat for a third UNISPACE conference.

60. In the past, it was usual for the Secretary-General of the United Nations to appoint a secretary-general for a major United Nations conference. More recently, most United Nations conferences have been coordinated by a senior staff member of the Secretariat of the United Nations. Examples of such conferences include the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, to be held at Yokohama, Japan, from 23 to 27 May 1994, the United Nations Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in Barbados in April 1994, the International Conference on Population and

Development, to be held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, and the World Summit for Social Development, to be held at Copenhagen in March 1995. With the exception of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, which had an unpaid Secretary-General and one Deputy Secretary-General, no recent United Nations conferences have had deputy secretaries-general or special senior advisers appointed from outside the United Nations.

61. Should a secretary-general of the conference be appointed, the cost to the United Nations could be minimized by limiting the time in which the individual serves on a full-time basis at the location of the secretariat and/or by having an interested Government provide such an individual at no cost to the United Nations. In the case of UNISPACE 82, the Secretary-General of the Conference was appointed 22 months prior to the convening of the Conference and took office about 17 months prior to it.

Other activities related to the conference

62. UNISPACE 82 clearly illustrated the value of holding, under the auspices of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, regional seminars and workshops, devoted to subjects to be considered by the conference. Such activities would serve to focus the attention of Member States on the subjects to be considered by the conference and would help to create a productive environment for the conference by ensuring that potential participants are well informed and well prepared. It would also be valuable to conduct several meetings and/or round-tables featuring international experts in various fields of space technology and policy who would not be otherwise directly involved in the conference. Such activities could prove useful for generating new ideas that could then be taken up by the conference.

63. Most activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications should be oriented towards conference preparations beginning approximately 18 months prior to the beginning of the conference. The regional commissions and other relevant United Nations entities should be involved in the planning and organization of regional seminars related to preparations for the conference.

64. The secretariat of the conference would also be responsible for developing and implementing a broad public information programme to create greater awareness of the conference, not only among relevant policy makers and governmental institutions, but also among non-governmental organizations and the general public. The highly successful information programme implemented for UNISPACE 82 could serve as a model. Consideration should be given to including the following elements in such an information programme:

(a) Publishing of a periodic newsletter;

(b) Press, radio and television publicity;

(c) Organization of long-term exhibits as part of existing visitor services at United Nations Headquarters, the United Nations Office at Geneva and the United Nations Office at Vienna;

(d) Dissemination of background information (booklets, audiovisual material etc.) on space technology and the goals of the conference;

(e) Organization of scientific seminars and "poster sessions" on topics related to the conference to be held immediately prior to the conference;

(f) Organization of a "media encounter" immediately prior to the convening of the conference to familiarize representatives of accredited media with the background of the conference as well as its objectives;

(g) Organization at the conference site of a major exhibition on space technology and applications for the duration of the conference;

(h) Organization of a series of evening lectures by specialists in various fields of space science and technology during the conference;

(i) Issuance by the United Nations Postal Administration of a stamp on the theme(s) of the conference;

(j) Organization of an international poster contest and essay competition.

65. Many of the above-mentioned activities should be organized and conducted with the support, both financial and in kind, of Member States, international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, including the Committee on Space Research (COSPAR) of the International Council of Scientific Unions, the International Astronautical Federation (IAF), the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) and the International Astronomical Union. Past experience has shown that, if properly mobilized, such organizations could effectively organize those activities and that funds in the conference budget allocated to publicity could be effectively utilized as seed money for those activities. Thus, many of the activities could be conducted within existing budgetary resources.

66. The holding of a forum of non-governmental organizations has become common practice at major United Nations conferences. Such a forum would help raise the profile of the proposed conference and at the same time would allow a wide variety of non-governmental organizations to participate when they would otherwise have no formal role. Such an activity has usually been organized by non-governmental organizations with the support of the host country at no cost to the United Nations.

67. In order to organize the public information programme, the secretariat of the conference would use the existing United Nations resources and expertise, particularly those of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat. The secretariat of the conference and the Department of Public Information would cooperate closely to ensure an effective information programme and optimum use of resources.

Host country agreement

68. Because of the broad scope of and potentially large participation in a third UNISPACE conference, it would be necessary to ensure close cooperation with governmental and non-governmental authorities in the host country. It would also be necessary to have in place a host country agreement at the earliest possible date, preferably not later than one year prior to the convening of such a conference. Such an agreement would be necessary if the conference were not held at United Nations Headquarters, the United Nations Office at Geneva or the United Nations Office at Vienna. It would also be necessary if the Government of Austria, Switzerland or the United States of America would decide to act as host to the proposed conference. Negotiations on such an agreement should begin immediately following a decision by the General Assembly on the venue of the proposed conference.

Organization of the conference

69. Participation in a third UNISPACE conference should be open to all Member States, as well as to relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, who would participate as observers.

70. The conference should be held over a two-week period, allowing three days for plenary meetings at the beginning of the conference and two days at the end of the conference for the adoption by the plenary of the report of the conference. The committees could meet for three or four days each, in parallel with the plenary meetings and with each other, depending on the number of committees and the agenda of the conference.

There might be three committees, with a maximum of two meetings taking place at any time, an arrangement that proved effective at UNISPACE 82.

71. Possible general themes to be covered by the committees could include:

(a) Review of developments in space science, technology and applications since the convening of UNISPACE 82, with emphasis on their relevance to and impact on developing countries;

(b) Review of policy issues affecting international cooperation in space activities;

(c) Review of the effectiveness of existing mechanisms for international cooperation in space activities; the strengthening of those mechanisms and the creation of new modalities of international cooperation.

72. Within the context of these general themes, the committees could also discuss more specific areas such as:

(a) The impact, implications and potential benefits of transnational satellite broadcasting, particularly for educational and development purposes;

(b) Contributions that space technology can make in implementing national and international sustainable development programmes;

(c) Strengthening and expanding international cooperation in meteorology, disaster warning and relief, and navigation through the use of space technology;

(d) Improved mechanisms for training and education in space science, technology and applications;

(e) Benefits of spin-offs from space technologies and the application of those spin-offs in economic and social development;

(f) Expansion and improvement of the space-related activities of the United Nations.

73. The themes of the committees could be determined in consultations and negotiations in both the preparatory committee and the advisory committee.

74. In addition, there should be at least one day of informal pre-conference consultations on procedural and organizational matters, as well as a briefing for all delegates to provide them with details on the arrangements for the conference and to discuss any outstanding matters related to the draft final document(s) to be adopted by the conference.

75. Officers of the conference should be agreed upon prior to the convening of the conference in informal discussions within the regional groups and the preparatory committee. As this is often a politically sensitive process, discussions on the matter should begin as soon as possible and should be finalized preferably six months prior to the convening of the conference.

Timing and schedule

76. A proposed schedule for the preparations for a third UNISPACE conference was contained in the working paper submitted by States members of the Group of 77 at the thirty-first session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (A/AC.105/C.1/L.199). The proposed schedule is contained in annex I of the present report. The preparation periods for United Nations conferences tend to be shorter for highly

specialized conferences or for conferences with limited objectives than for conferences with broader mandates. The proposed schedule contained in annex I is feasible but is predicated on the assumption that the necessary agreements will be reached within the Committee in time for the General Assembly to approve the convening of such a conference at its forty-ninth session, in 1994. In determining the actual timing of such a conference, it should be kept in mind that the General Assembly, in its resolution 40/243, section I, of 18 December 1985, requested the Committee on Conferences and the Secretary-General to take account of a number of principles in drawing up the calendar of conferences and meetings, including the principles that no more than one special United Nations conference should be convened at the same time and that no more than five such conferences should be held in any given year. According to the Office of Conference Services of the Secretariat, one major conference is currently scheduled for 1996 (the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements, to be held from 3 to 14 June in Turkey). No major conferences have been approved for 1997.

Possible outcomes of the conference

77. Consideration should be given at the earliest possible stages of conference preparation as to the form and scope of any recommendations or programme of action to be adopted by the conference. In addition to any financial implications (see paragraphs 92-94 below), careful planning is necessary to ensure that any such recommendations are realistic and feasible. It should be noted that one of the criticisms levelled at UNISPACE 82 was that its recommendations were too broad, unfocused and idealistic.

78. In this regard, it would be useful to conduct a thorough critical review of the UNISPACE 82 recommendations and their implementation as part of the preparatory process for a third UNISPACE conference. Such a review would provide the preparatory committees valuable insight into what types of programmes have been successfully utilized as a mechanism for implementing the recommendations of UNISPACE 82, and conversely, would provide insight into why certain recommendations have not yet been implemented.

B. Funding

79. Additional funding for a third UNISPACE conference, primarily for pre-conference activities, committee servicing during the conference, support staff and other related activities, would be required to the extent that funding requirements cannot be met from within existing budgetary resources.

80. Funding for a third UNISPACE conference could come from four sources:

(a) The United Nations system (to cover staff, conference-servicing costs);

(b) The host country (to cover incremental costs, discretionary services and activities);

(c) Other international organizations (support for preparatory activities, provision of expert services not available within the secretariat of the conference, organization and support of scientific and technical seminars, meetings and exhibits);

(d) Voluntary contributions (for regional preparatory conferences, public information activities and general support for all other activities).

United Nations funding

81. It should be noted that all figures cited in the present subsection are preliminary estimates only and are based on the information available as of April 1994. They are provided only for the information of the

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. It should also be noted that the figures would have no impact on existing budget appropriation for the biennium 1994-1995 and that, therefore, there would be no requirement to prepare a statement of programme budget implications for consideration by the Committee at its thirty-seventh session.

82. Estimates for conference-servicing costs are made on a full-cost basis and are based on the assumption that no part of those costs would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity of the programme budget that would be in place during the biennium in which a third UNISPACE conference would be held and that additional resources would be needed for temporary assistance for meetings. The estimates make no assumptions with regard to the absorptive capacity of the conference-servicing resources at each duty station and the extent to which the permanent capacity of the United Nations would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources. Those can be determined only taking into consideration the calendar of conferences for the period 1994-1995. The Financial Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna has agreed to release the cost estimates contained in the present report only with the disclaimer that the amount of the cost that could be absorbed by the established conference-servicing capacity has not been included in those costs and that it is clear that in the case of Vienna, as much as 50 per cent of the total estimated cost of $775,224 could be absorbed at the time the conference is tentatively scheduled for.

83. Preliminary cost estimates for a third UNISPACE conference, provided by the Financial Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna (see annex II) are based on the following assumptions:

(a) The Office for Outer Space Affairs would be responsible for the substantive and administrative arrangements for the conference and would provide the executive secretary of the conference; thus, the services of the executive secretary would be funded from within existing resources;

(b) The conference would be held for two weeks in August 1996;

(c) There would be a total of four meetings per day of the plenary and of the three committees of the whole and not more than two meetings would be held simultaneously. There would be interpretation in all six official languages of the United Nations;

(d) There would be no summary records;

(e) Documentation, in the six official languages, would be comprised of 100 pages of pre-session, 50 pages of in-session and 100 pages of post-session documents, in addition to background documentation that, to the maximum extent feasible, would be financed from within existing resources;

(f) If a Government would host the conference and the conference would not be held at Vienna, the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs for approximately 12 substantive officers from the Office for Outer Space Affairs to service the conference would, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, be absorbed by the host country;

(g) Salary and common staff costs would be required for the secretary-general of the conference for 12 months, if one is appointed from outside the United Nations;

(h) Temporary assistance would be required for 12 work-months at the P-5 level to augment the substantive secretariat (one officer to serve as a technical writer/editor);

(i) Consultant services would be required for 27 work-months, where the expertise is not available in the secretariat for assisting in the preparation of background papers and provision of technical advice at the regional seminars and at the conference;

(j) Official travel and daily subsistence allowance would be required for the substantive secretariat to attend the regional seminars to assist in the preparation of national papers, to conduct consultations with Governments, the regional commissions and other entities of the United Nations system, and other relevant organizations, and to attend other related international meetings during the preparatory period;

(k) Funding would be required for the preparation and distribution of background and promotional material, the development and implementation of a publicity programme, and assistance for the organization of an exhibit;

(l) Funding would need to be increased for the regional seminars of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications so that they might serve as preparatory seminars for the conference.

84. Conference-servicing costs for four venues (interpretation, translation, documentation, staff for servicing the meetings and other related services), presented in subparagraphs 81 (b)-(e) above, would be as follows (see annex II for a breakdown of these costs):

Bangalore	$641,433
Geneva	$651,586
New York	$641,433
Vienna	$775,224

85. If the conference would be held at a location other than Vienna, there would be additional costs for travel and daily subsistence allowance for 12 substantive secretariat staff from Vienna to the conference site. The costs for four venues, described in subparagraph 81 (f) above, are estimated as follows:

Bangalore	$66,100
Geneva	$56,200
New York	$92,900
Vienna	$0

86. Preliminary estimates for costs described in subparagraphs 81 (g), (h) and (i) above are as follows:

(a) Salary and common staff costs (one post at the Assistant Secretary-General level for 12 months): $177,000;

(b) Temporary assistance (one post at the P-5 level for 12 months): $132,300;

(c) Consultants ($5,000 per month for 27 work-months): $135,000.

These costs would remain fixed regardless of the venue for the conference although the requirements for the item described in subparagraph (b) above might be lower should such services be available from elsewhere within the United Nations Secretariat. Similarly, the actual requirement for the item described in subparagraph (c) above might also be lower if national or regional space agencies would provide such assistance, as was the case with UNISPACE 82.

87. For the purposes of planning, the amounts of $50,000, $50,000 and $75,000, respectively, were used for the items described in subparagraphs 81 (j), (k) and (l) above. The actual requirement for the item described in subparagraph 81 (j) above might be higher or lower depending on whether or not a secretary-general of the conference is appointed and depending on the nature and location of the regional preparatory conferences. The estimate for the item described in subparagraph 81 (l) above assumes that, as was the case prior to UNISPACE 82, voluntary donations to the United Nations Space Applications Programme Trust Fund

would increase during the pre-conference period. If this is not the case, then funding for that element might have to be increased.

Host country funding

88. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243, if the conference would be held at a venue other than Vienna, the host country would be responsible for paying any incremental costs involved in holding the conference away from Vienna. In the case of Bangalore, that would include the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs noted in paragraph 83 above, as well as the travel and daily subsistence allowance costs for conference-servicing staff, who would be sent, based on availability, from United Nations Headquarters, the United Nations Office at Geneva, the United Nations Office at Vienna or a combination of those locations. That cost is estimated to be $419,300. The total estimated net additional cost to be borne by the host Government if the conference would be held at Bangalore is $826,100, as shown in annex III.

89. In addition to reimbursing the United Nations for travel and daily subsistence allowance costs, the host country normally provides facilities and services at no cost to the United Nations, including, conference and exhibition facilities, local transportation, security and support personnel, publicity and other services necessary for the conference.

Voluntary contributions

90. Because of the broad subject-matter to be covered by the proposed conference, it might be possible to solicit support from other international organizations whose missions are closely related to the issues to be considered by the conference. Examples of possible donors include the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization, the International Maritime Satellite Organization, the European Telecommunications Satellite Organization and the European Organization for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites, as well as the European Space Agency (ESA) and national space agencies of participating countries. Specialized agencies of the United Nations, such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Telecommunication Union and the World Meteorological Organization, could also be expected to provide valuable expertise and support.

91. In particular, the support of these and other similar international, non-governmental space-related organizations, such as COSPAR, IAF and ISPRS, which have permanent observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, would be useful for enhancing the scope and quality of the pre-conference preparatory seminars to be organized under the auspices of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications, for the preparation of background documents and for the organization of related but independent pre-conference seminars, workshops and lectures.

92. Voluntary contributions for particular elements of conference preparation might be solicited from Member States, industry and academic and philanthropic institutions. Such contributions, whether financial or in kind, could be used to support the organization of other related activities to be conducted in conjunction with the conference, such as an exhibition of space technology and spin-offs from space technology and large-scale demonstrations of such technology, as well as academic symposia, and the publication of material to promote the conference objectives.

Comparative cost of recent United Nations conferences

93. The cost of recent major United Nations conferences has varied significantly depending on a variety of factors, including duration, documentation, whether an existing United Nations committee served as the preparatory committee, the number of preparatory meetings, and whether the conference was serviced by an existing secretariat body or if a new secretariat had to be recruited from outside the United Nations. For

example, the budgeted cost of the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, to be held at Yokohama in 1994, based on costs for Geneva, where the secretariat is located, is $1,794,100, not including the incremental costs charged to the Government of Japan (A/C.5/48/58), while the cost of the International Conference on Population and Development, to be held at Cairo in 1994, is budgeted at $5,651,100 (A/C.5/46/25). For comparative figures from UNISPACE 82, see paragraph 49 above.

Other financial issues

94. While not directly related to the financing of the conference, serious consideration must be given at the earliest stages in the substantive development of the conference agenda to the potential financial implications of follow-up activities to be recommended by the conference.

95. Considering that it is unrealistic to expect a significant amount of new funding to be available for new programmes and initiatives that may be recommended by a third UNISPACE conference, creative methods and mechanisms should be considered through which existing financial and organizational resources could be used to implement the recommendations of the conference. Examples include existing funding sources within the United Nations system, such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and its "Capacity 21" initiative, designed to assist in building national capacities to implement Agenda 21, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the Global Environment Facility, which is a joint programme of UNEP, UNDP and the World Bank. Other funding sources, such as regional development banks and existing and planned regional space agencies and organizations, should also be considered in this regard. In order to be most effective, it is important that funding for any programmes and initiatives that may be approved by a third UNISPACE conference should, where appropriate and feasible, be shared among donor and recipient countries.

96. It might therefore be prudent to consider whether one or more meetings at the conference should be devoted to developing solutions to the problem of funding any conference recommendations.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 20 (A/48/20), paras. 123-124.

2/ Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992 (A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1 (Vol. I and Vol. I/Corr.1, Vol. II, Vol. III and Vol. III/Corr.1)) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: Resolutions adopted by the Conference, resolution 1, annex II.

Annex I

SCHEDULE FOR A THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE, AS PROPOSED IN DOCUMENT A/AC.105/C.1/L.199

February-June 1994	Discussion of objectives, agenda, venue and timing of the conference
June 1994	Agreement by the Committee to convene the conference
December 1994	Decision by the General Assembly to convene the conference
January-May 1995	Preparation by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the basic background documents and an outline of the draft report of the conference
January 1995-June 1996	Implementation of activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications devoted to the regional preparations for the conference
February-March 1995	Consideration by the subcommittees of the schedule of preparatory work
June 1995	Consideration by the Committee of the outline of the draft report
June-December 1995	Preparation by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the first draft of the report
July 1995	Submission of position papers by States and organizations
February-March 1996	Consideration by the subcommittees of the first draft of the report
June 1996	Consideration by the Committee of the second draft of the report
August 1996	Convening of the conference

Annex II

ESTIMATED COSTS TO THE UNITED NATIONS OF A THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE a/

(Costs expressed in US dollars at 1994 rates)

	Bangalore b/	Geneva	New York	Vienna c/
Conference-servicing				
Pre- and post-session documentation, including translation d/	310 554	310 554	310 554	310 554
In-session documentation, including translation	51 999	58 984	51 999	76 638
Staff for servicing meetings	278 880	282 048	278 880	388 032
Substantive secretariat				
Salary and common staff costs e/	177 000	177 000	177 000	177 000
Temporary assistance f/	132 300	132 300	132 300	132 300
Consultants	135 000	135 000	135 000	135 000
Official travel and daily subsistence allowance during preparatory period	50 000	50 000	50 000	50 000
Publicity and background material	50 000	50 000	50 000	50 000
Augmented funding for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications	75 000	75 000	75 000	75 000
Secretariat travel and daily subsistence allowance for the conference	g/	56 200	92 900	-
Office of General Services				
General operating expenses	3 400	3 4000	3 400	3 400
Total	1 264 133	1 330 486	1 357 033	1 397 924

a/ All figures cited are preliminary estimates only and are based on the information available as of April 1994. They are provided only for the information of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. It should also be noted that the figures would have no impact on existing budget appropriation for the biennium 1994-1995 and that, therefore, there would be no requirement to prepare a statement of programme budget implications for consideration by the Committee at its thirty-seventh session.

b/ Conference-servicing costs for Bangalore, India, are equivalent to those for New York because, under current rules, a conference held at Bangalore would be serviced by conference-servicing staff based in New York. For incremental costs to be borne by the host country, see annex III of the present report.

c/ Estimates for conference-servicing costs are made on a full-cost basis and are based on the assumption that no part of those costs would be met from within the permanent conference-servicing capacity of the programme budget that would be in place during the biennium in which a third UNISPACE conference would be held and that additional resources would be needed for temporary assistance for meetings. The estimates make no assumptions with regard to the absorptive capacity of the conference-servicing resources at each duty station and the extent to which the permanent capacity of the United Nations would need to be supplemented by temporary assistance resources. They can be determined only taking into consideration the calendar of conferences for the period 1994-1995. The Financial Service of the United Nations Office at Vienna has agreed to release the cost estimates contained in the present report only with the disclaimer that the amount of the cost that could be absorbed by the established conference-servicing capacity has not been included in those costs and that it is clear that in the case of Vienna, as much as 50 per cent of the total estimated cost of $775,224 could be absorbed at the time the conference is tentatively scheduled for.

d/ Regardless of the venue of the conference, pre-session and post-session documentation would be processed at Vienna, where the substantive secretariat is based.

e/ Salary and common staff costs of the secretary-general of the conference for 12 months, if one is appointed from outside the United Nations.

f/ Temporary assistance for 12 work-months at the P-5 level to augment the substantive secretariat (one officer to serve as technical writer/editor).

g/ See annex III of the present report.

Annex III

ESTIMATED NET ADDITIONAL COSTS TO BE BORNE BY THE HOST GOVERNMENT OF A THIRD UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE EXPLORATION AND PEACEFUL USES OF OUTER SPACE IF THE VENUE WOULD BE BANGALORE, INDIA
(Costs expressed in US dollars at 1994 rates)

	Estimated net additional costs to be borne by the host Government
Conference-servicing	
Meeting-servicing staff, travel and daily subsistence allowance (67 interpreters, translators and other conference-servicing staff sent from New York)	419 300
Pre-conference consultations (2 days, 14 interpreters)	3 600
Two planning missions (1 week each, 6 staff)	67 300
Substantive secretariat	
Travel and daily subsistence allowance for the conference	66 100
Other requirements	
Pouch, freight, telephone, telex etc.	158 900
Administrative support (5 per cent)	35 800
Contingency (10 per cent)	75 100
Total	826 100